

II. REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 9 and 10 are amended and new claims 11-18 are added. The amendments are supported by the originally filed specification and claims. In particular, claims 11-18 are directed to the preferred subject matter removed from claims 1, 3, 4, 5, and 9. Claim 3 was amended to correct the grammatical errors noted by the Examiner, and claim 4 was also amended for clarification, as suggested by the Examiner. Further, claim 10 was rewritten in independent form for clarification in order to expedite prosecution and is supported by, for example, pages 2, lines 1-7 of the specification. No new matter is contained in the amendments.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that "Claims 1-10 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph" (Office Action, page 4, section 12).

The specification is objected to for lack of antecedent basis. This objection is traversed. Applicants respectfully submit that the phrase "fluoroethers containing at least one hydrogen atom in one end group, preferably in both end groups" in claim 4 is identically disclosed, and therefore sufficiently supported by page 8, lines 4-6 of the specification. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

Claim 3 is objected to for the asserted informalities. Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection has been overcome by the above amendments to claim 3, which were requested by the Examiner.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for the asserted indefiniteness. This rejection is traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is overcome by the above amendments to claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 9 and 10. As noted above, the preferred subject matter was removed from claims 1, 3, 5, and 9, claim 4 was amended for clarification, as suggested by the Examiner, and claim 10 was rewritten in independent form and is supported by, for example, pages 2, lines 1-7 of the specification. Dependent claims 2 and 6-8 are patentable for at least the same reasons.


Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

III. CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below to schedule a personal or telephone interview to discuss any remaining issues.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for this extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing docket number **108910-00126**.

Respectfully submitted,


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